



HISTORICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, INC.

October 30, 2018

Judicial Nomination Commission  
c/o Lois Menzies  
Office of Court Administrator  
P.O. Box 203005  
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Re: Application of Stephen R. Brown to be appointed associate water judge for the Montana Water Court

Dear Nomination Committee Members:

It is with great pleasure that I write in support of Stephen R. Brown's application to be appointed as a water judge for the Montana Water Court. I have known Stephen for well over two decades as a client, an attorney, and a friend. During this time, I have always been impressed with Stephen's calm yet confident demeanor and his unrelenting attention to detail—qualities that would serve him well as an associate water judge.

I first worked with Stephen on a case involving the question of navigability of water courses in Montana. Stephen worked tirelessly for his client and interacted with the other attorneys on the case in a professional and respectful manner. He was always well prepared and had a thorough understanding of the issues involved in the case.

Since that time, I have worked with Stephen on other cases, and I have always been impressed with his detailed preparation and his even-tempered demeanor.

During my career I have served as an expert witness historian in water rights cases throughout the West. I have provided both expert witness reports and expert testimony in some of the largest water rights cases in this part of the country. As a result, I have worked with man of the leading water attorneys in the country and have been involved in numerous hearings, depositions and trials. Through this experience I have gained an understanding of the temperament and demeanor needed to be successful. Stephen Brown is one of the best water attorneys I have worked with.

Water rights in Montana can be a very contentious issue, and with increasing demands on this precious resource, they will likely remain a divisive issue into the future. The Montana Water Court needs capable and fair arbiters to ensure that water users are treated in an impartial manner and with the dignity they deserve. Stephen R. Brown would bring to the Water Court a wealth of experience and all of the qualities necessary to ensure that each individual who comes before the court is treated in a fair and unbiased manner.

Should you have any additional questions regarding this letter of support please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel F. Gallacher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a stylized "G".

Daniel F. Gallacher  
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Missoula, Montana  
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